

WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The **Congregational Meeting** is today immediately after the 9 am service for the purpose of electing the Officer Nominating Committee: Bruce Moseley-Chair, Lucie Eggleston- Vice Chair, Carolyn Stoddard (Deacon), Stephen Sansbury (Deacon), Melissa Mimms (Presbyterian Women representative), at-large members Ernest McCutcheon, Mallie DiBiase, Sharon Shuler, Bill Ratteree, Sharmin Hill

Share Your Eastminster Story: As we celebrate 75 years, we want to share pictures illustrating your Eastminster Stories. Send in pictures of you and/or your family participating in ministries at Eastminster. Please email photos to communications@eastminsterpres.org.

ECAMP (Eastminster's Children's Afternoon Music Program) Tonight: Children (4K - Fifth Graders) should be dropped off at 5 pm and picked up promptly at 6:30 pm from the Sanctuary. If you have questions, contact Fredna Lee (flee@eastminsterpres.org).

Be a "Bible Doer" on March 15 anytime between 6 am and 8 am: Meet at Beth and Hampton Oliver's home the third Wednesday of the month for coffee, fellowship, and service.

Transitions Third Thursday is March 16: Donations of bananas, pasta salad and pound cakes are due to the Church Office (Staff Kitchen) by 4 pm. Servers meet at Transitions by 5 pm. Contact Alison McGowan to help out (alisonmcgowan11@gmail.com).

Learning Opportunity for EPC Missions Enthusiasts: Share a meal on Saturday, March 18, with Taiwanese missionary Dr. John McCall. Contact Julie McDaniel to RSVP: 803-256-1654 (ext. 143).

75th Anniversary's Missions Celebration (March 19 - 26): Dr. John McCall, Taiwan mission partner, will preach on March 19. On March 25 we will be Marching Out into our community for Mission Saturday. The celebration wraps up on Sunday, March 26 (**Peanut Butter Sunday**), with Dr. Ellen Skidmore returning to preach, along with Dr. Eric Skidmore and Dr. John Frye who will be assisting with worship. Mark your calendars, and celebrate 75 years of missions! Also on March 26, we will have a congregational lunch, which will be a covered dish lunch. For details, visit <https://eastminsterpres.org/events/missions-blitz-weekend-potluck-luncheon/>.

She Sings Concert is March 21 at 7 pm in the Sanctuary: In place of ticket sales, you may make a donation or bring a jar of peanut butter for Harvest Hope.

Red Cross Blood Drive is Wednesday, March 23 (CLC-Gym 1 pm - 6 pm): Give the gift of life during Missions Week! Visit our website's Upcoming Events to sign up (www.eastminsterpres.org).

The Flower Guild invites You to Dedicate Easter Lilies for Easter Morning: Pick up a form at the Welcome Center, or dedicate at www.eastminsterpres.org under Upcoming Events. Dedication forms (\$25) are due to Julie McDaniel by April 3.

E2 (Eastminster Experience) Internships for College-aged Young Adults: Apply for a summer job at EPC, June 5-July 30, learning about the life of the church. Contact Nick Demuyneck, ndemuyneck@eastminsterpres.org, to fill out an application.

Join Us for Worship during Holy Week: Palm Sunday is April 2 (regular worship schedule); **Maundy Thursday** communion service on April 6 at 7 pm in Thompson Hall. **Good Friday** Tenebrae Service is on April 7 at 7 pm in the Sanctuary, and **Easter services** are on April 9: Sunrise Service at 6:30 am in the Courtyard; Traditional Services at 8:45 am and 10:30 am in the Sanctuary, and Contemporary Jubilee Service is at 10:30 am in Thompson Hall. In lieu of Sunday School, there will be a Courtyard Celebration at 9:45 am.

Flowers in the sanctuary are given to the Glory of God by an Eastminster family.

Unison Reading: Isaiah 58:6-9a

6Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? **7**Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

8Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. **9**Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

SERMON NOTES



EASTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN



DEACONS: ZACK HUDSON AND SUSAN RATTEREE
HEAD USHER: JEFF MUTHIG (9:00 AM) MIKE GORMAN (11:15 AM)
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MINISTERS—ALL OF US!

STAFF

Dr. Bradley D. Smith, Pastor

Dr. Douglass D. Key, Senior Associate Pastor
Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan, Interim Parish Associate
Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd, Parish Associate
Bill Collins, Business Manager
Anna Mills Cox, Sr. Communications Officer
Blythe Lewis, Director of Communications
Bethany Parker, Director of Middle School Youth
Emmet Hough, Director of Christian Life Center

Rev. Nicholas P. Demuyneck, Associate Pastor
Rev. W. Croskeys Royall, Associate Pastor
Fredna Lee, Director of Music Ministry
Josh Evanovich, Organist
Katie Herndon, Day School Director
Christy Rippy, Treasurer
Caroline Bennett, Small Groups Dir./Librarian
James Cassidy, A/V Director

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 12, 2023
9:00 AM & 11:15 AM

3200 TRENHOLM ROAD
COLUMBIA, SC 29204

803-256-1654

Welcome to Eastminster Presbyterian Church!

In Christ's name, we welcome you to Eastminster. We hope that you will feel the love and peace of Christ as you worship with us. Please take this time to silence the world and focus your heart and mind on worshipping our Living God.

“So welcome each other, in the same way that Christ also welcomed you, for God's glory.” Romans 15:7.

All Eastminster worship services and activities are mask optional, with masks available at the Welcome Center if you'd like one.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

from Psalm 118, 119

Leader: Happy are those who walk in the way of the Lord,

People: who seek God with their whole hearts.

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made,

All Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

†*HYMN OF PRAISE #297

In Christ Called to Baptize

ST. DENIO

*PRAYER OF ADORATION

Rev. Dr. J. Ben Sloan

*THE APOSTLES' CREED *(unison)*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**GLORIA PATRI *(Please send the children forward.)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Joshua Woods Livingston *(9 am)*

Sarah Fielding Ames *(11:15 am)*

BAPTISMAL HYMN #482

Baptized in Water

BUNESSAN

**TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

The 3K—5K children come to the front and bring their offering.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we bow down before other gods; we have turned our hearts away from you. Our worship of work and devotion to consumerism disorders our love of you and each other. Forgive us, God, hear our silent prayers, and mend what is broken, that we may be one with you (silent prayer)

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel.

Congregation: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE TO THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON #469

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CHILDREN PRAYING

Lord, listen to your children praying. Lord, send your Spirit in this place. Lord, listen to your children praying. Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Carol J. Byrd

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

SIGNING OF FRIENDSHIP REGISTER AND OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

If you or someone you know is in need of special prayer today or if you would like to speak personally with a pastor about making a first-time commitment to Christ or growing in the Christian faith and discipleship, a pastor is on hand to speak with you following the worship service today by the pulpit in the front of the Sanctuary.

ANTHEM

The Yearning

Craig Courtney

There is a yearning in hearts weighed down by ancient grief and centuries of sorrow. There is a yearning in hearts that in the darkness hide and in the shades of death abide, a yearning for tomorrow. There is a yearning for the promised One, the First-born of creation. There is a yearning for the Lord who visited His own, and by His death for sin atoned, to bring to us salvation. Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning. There is a yearning that fills the hearts of those who wait the day of His appearing. There is a yearning when all our sorrows are erased and we shall see the One who placed within our hearts the yearning. Emmanuel, Emmanuel, within our hearts, the yearning.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*OFFICER'S PRAYER

Susan Ratteree

*THOSE WHO ARE ABLE, PLEASE STAND. **CHILDREN MAY BRING THEIR OFFERING AT THIS TIME.

†THOSE WAITING IN THE NARTHEX MAY NOW BE SEATED

THE FLOOR LEVEL OF THE SANCTUARY HAS A HEARING LOOP FOR HEARING AID USERS

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Unison Reading: Isaiah 58:6-9a

Scripture Focus: Matthew 25:31-46

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Pastor: The Word of the LORD!

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“God of the Nations”

Rev. Dr. Bradley D. Smith

*HYMN OF DEDICATION #331

God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand

NATIONAL HYMN

*CHARGE

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE TO THE BENEDICTION

Amen

Peter Lutkin

POSTLUDE

*A TIME FOR GREETING AND FELLOWSHIP



WELCOME TO EASTMINSTER

We are delighted that you have chosen to celebrate this Lord's Day with us, and we hope that in a real and meaningful way you will sense God's presence, power, and purpose among us. If you would like for us to connect with you, please leave your contact information in the Friendship Pad when it is passed.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?

Contact Christina Siokos (csiokos@eastminsterpres.org or 256-1654 x123) to learn more and find out about our next First Step class, a class designed to help you learn about Eastminster and our ongoing ministries.

DURING THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP:

Joshua Woods Livingston, son of Josh and Rankin Livingston., will receive the sacrament of baptism during the 9:00 am worship service. Leigh Pound. will offer the baptismal prayer.

Sarah Fielding Ames, daughter of Schipp and Garland Ames, will receive the sacrament of baptism during the 11:15 am worship service. Sally Ames will offer the baptismal prayer.

March 19, 2023

Rev. Dr. John McCall